

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7404

INFO ALL AMCONSULS MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 3558

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT MX

SUBJECT: HIDALGO STATE AND PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS

REF: MEXICO 3523

1. THE PERMANENT COMMISSION OF MEXICAN CONGRESS (WHICH HANDLES FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE MATTERS DURING 8 MONTH RECESS) APRIL 22 HEARD CHARGES FROM TWO HIDALGO LEGISLATORS (FEDERAL DEPUTY OSCAR BRAVO SANTOS AND SENATOR GERMAN CORONA DEL ROSAL) AGAINST HIDALGO GOVERNOR ONTONIEL MIRANDA AND FORMER GOVERNOR MANUEL SANCHEZ VITE. BRAVO CAUGHT HEADLINES WITH STATEMENT THAT "THERE WAS CHANGE OF MEN WITHOUT TRANSMISSION OF POWER". BRAVO ALSO SAID "CONSTITUTIONAL ORDER WAS ON VERGE OF BREAKING - IF IT HAD NOT ALREADY". CORONA SAID HE PERSONALLY HAD SUFFERED PERSONAL THREATS AND PHYSICAL ABUSE.

2. PERMANENT COMMISSION PRESIDENT SENATOR ENRIQUE OLIVARES SANTANA CONCLUDED SESSION WITH STATEMENT THAT "WHEN THE HIDALGO DELEGATIONS SAYS JURIDICAL ORDER IN THAT STATE IS BROKEN, THE PERMANENT COMMISSION WILL ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS FACULTIES". NO ACTION AGAINST MIRANDA WAS TAKEN.

3. COMMENT: IT IS NOT CLEAR IF (A) PERMANENT COMMISSION IS SIMPLY GOING TO ACT DELIBERATELY THIS TIME (IT WAS CRITICIZED FOR ACTING HASTILY IN DEPOSING GOVERNOR OF GUERRERO IN JANUARY), (B) THERE HAS NOT YET BEEN A
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DECISION MADE TO OUST MIRANDA, OR (C) FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL STOP SHORT OF DEPOSING MIRANDA, BY ISSUING WARNING.

STAFF AIDES OF BRAVO SANTOS, WITH WHOM EMBOFF SPOKE
APRIL 23, WERE DEBATING THIS QUESTION AMONG THEMSELVES,
PRIVATE SECRETARY TO BRAVO TAKING POSITION THAT (FOR THE
MOMENT) NOTHING MORE THAN WARNING WAS CONTEMPLATED.
OTHERS SUSPECTED OLIVARES SANTANA OF BEING SYMPATHETIC
TO MIRANDA AND SANCHEZ VITE AND SAW A STALEMATE EMERGING.
ATTITUDE OF PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WILL PROBABLY DECIDE MATTER.
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